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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/748,666	12/31/2003	Bret Taylor	0026-0044	2791
44989	7590	07/12/2006	EXAMINER	
HARRITY SNYDER, LLP 11350 Random Hills Road SUITE 600 FAIRFAX, VA 22030			THAI, HANH B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2163	

DATE MAILED: 07/12/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/748,666

Applicant(s)

TAYLOR ET AL.

Examiner

Hanh B. Thai

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 December 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-31 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 December 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>May 9, 2005</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### **DETAILED ACTION**

The following is Non-Final Office Action in response to the application filed December 31, 2003 in which claims 1-31 are presented for examination.

#### ***Information Disclosure Statement***

1. The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on May 9, 2005 has been considered and entered into record. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 1-31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Holbrook (US 6,961,731 B2).

Regarding claim 1, Holbrook discloses a method comprising:

- performing a search to determine documents related to a search query, the search being performed on a database containing a plurality of document categories to obtain a list of search results corresponding to each of at least two of the categories (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11,

Holbrook discloses performing a search to obtain a list of search results of categories);

- ranking the lists of search results relative to one another (col.9, lines 2-6 and col.10, lines 34-36, Holbrook discloses the “ranked matching of websites” reads on “ranking the lists of search results”); and
- generating a document in which the search results are placed in an organization determined based, at least in part, on the ranking of the lists of search results (Fig.3; Fig.7; Fig.9A and col.9, lines 2-6, Fig.3 of Holbrook showing the document of search results on the ranking list).

Regarding claims 2 and 15, Holbrook discloses wherein the organization of the generated document includes two or more of the lists of search results placed in a separate section (Fig.4 showing the list of search results placed in a separate section “society”, “arts”, “shopping” or “sport”).

Regarding claims 3 and 16, Holbrook discloses wherein more highly ranked lists of search results are displayed more prominently in the generated document than less highly ranked lists of search results (Fig.2-3 and col.9, lines 2-6, Holbrook discloses the “first numerically ranked matching- “1-50 sites” corresponding to “highly ranked list of search results”).

Regarding claims 4 and 23, Holbrook discloses wherein the generated document includes the search results as hypertext transfer protocol links (col.9, line 66 to col. 10, line 3, Holbrook).

Regarding claims 5 and 24, Holbrook discloses wherein the more highly ranked lists of search results are displayed in sections that include more links than the sections corresponding to the less highly ranked lists of search results (Fig.2-4 and col.9, lines 2-6, Holbrook discloses the

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“first numerically ranked matching- “1-50 sites” corresponding to “highly ranked list of search results”).

Regarding claims 6 and 25, Holbrook discloses wherein at least one of the sections includes a title describing the category corresponding to the section (Fig.4 of Holbrook showing the list of search results placed in a separate section, titled as “society”, “arts”, “shopping” or “sport”).

Regarding claims 7, 17 and 26, Holbrook discloses wherein at least one of the sections includes a link to additional search results for the category corresponding to the section (Fig.4 and step 504, Fig.5, Holbrook).

Regarding claims 8, 18 and 27, Holbrook discloses wherein the generated document is a web page (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook).

Regarding claims 9 and 19, Holbrook discloses wherein ranking the lists of search results is performed based on documents in the lists of search results (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook discloses performing a search to obtain a list of search results of categories).

Regarding claims 10 and 20, Holbrook discloses wherein ranking the lists of search results is performed based on the search query (col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook).

Regarding claim 11, Holbrook discloses wherein a most highly ranked list of search results is displayed on a left hand side of the generated document (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook).

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Regarding claim 12, Holbrook discloses wherein the categories include at least one of documents relating to news, products, images, and general web pages (Fig.2-4, Holbrook).

Regarding claim 13, Holbrook discloses wherein the categories include documents relating to news, products, images, and general web pages (Fig.2-4, Holbrook).

Regarding claim 14, Holbrook discloses a search engine comprising:

- a search component configured to identify documents related to a search query from a database containing a plurality of document categories, the search component obtaining a list of search results corresponding to each of at least two of the categories (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook discloses performing a search to obtain a list of search results of categories);
- a ranking component configured to rank the lists of search results relative to one another (col.9, lines 2-6 and col. 10, lines 34-36, Holbrook discloses the “ranked matching of websites” reads on “ranking the lists of search results”); and
- an interface generation component configured to generate a document in which the search results are organized based, at least in part, on the ranking of the lists of search results (Fig.3; Fig.7; Fig.9A and col.9, lines 2-6, Fig.3 of Holbrook showing the document of search results on the ranking list).

Regarding claims 21 and 28, Holbrook discloses a method of organizing documents categorized into a plurality of categories, the method comprising:

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- ranking the plurality of categories based on contents of the documents in each of the categories (col.9, lines 2-6 and col. 10, lines 34-36, Holbrook discloses the “ranked matching of websites” are organized in categories); and
- generating a results document in which the documents are organized by category and in which the documents of higher ranking categories are more prominently placed in the results document (Fig.2-3 and col.9, lines 2-6, Holbrook discloses the “first numerically ranked matching- 1-50 sites” corresponding to “higher ranking categories in the result document”).

Regarding claims 22, 29 and 31, Holbrook discloses receiving a search query; and performing a search based on the search query in each of the plurality of categories to locate the documents (Fig.2-4; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook discloses performing a search to obtain a list of search results of categories).

Regarding claim 30, Holbrook discloses a computer-readable medium containing programming instructions for execution by a processor, the computer-readable medium including:

- instructions for receiving input documents categorized into a plurality of categories (Fig.2-3; col.6, lines 43-67 and col.8, line 52 to col.9, line 11, Holbrook discloses document categorized into a plurality of categories);
- instructions for ranking the input documents based on contents of the input documents in each of the categories (col.9, lines 2-6 and col. 10, lines 34-36, Holbrook discloses the “ranked matching of websites” are organized in categories); and

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- instructions for generating a results document in which the input documents are organized by category and in which the documents of higher ranking categories are more prominently placed in the results document (Fig.2-3 and col.9, lines 2-6, Holbrook discloses the “first numerically ranked matching- 1-50 sites” corresponding to “higher ranking categories in the result document”).

### *Conclusion*

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Liang (US 2006/0106793 A1) discloses Internet and computer information retrieval and mining with intelligent conceptual filtering, visualization and automation.

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hanh B. Thai whose telephone number is 571-272-4029. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on 571-272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

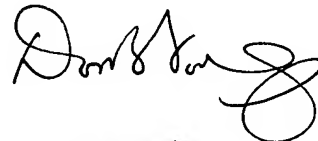


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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Hanh B Thai  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2163

July 5, 2006



**DON WONG**  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
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